



EPA Update on Hillcrest Fire Response

Monday, October 1, 2012

Efforts to put the fire out at the Hillcrest Industries facility in Attica, New York continue going well. The EPA is overseeing crews as they break the 40 foot, one acre pile into smaller sections that are cooled down and moved to the other side of the facility. Since work began Saturday morning, over 10,700 cubic yards of material has been moved and cooled. The work is progressing toward the hotter part of the pile. Materials being handled today are at about 350 degrees, up from the estimated 180 degrees in the area of the face where work started Saturday. The EPA has begun to see some pockets of open flame, which are quickly extinguished before the material is cooled and moved.

The work is being conducted in a 12 hour daytime shift. Smoke and fumes remain under control, odor remains a nuisance. There is visible steam from the piles. Results of real time monitoring show levels of volatile organic compounds are either not detectable at all or very low, including levels on the site itself. The EPA will continue its work until the fire is entirely out. The Agency will also continue to monitor the air.

Residents with questions or concerns may contact Mike Basile, U.S. EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, at (716) 551-4410 or email basile.michael@epa.gov